United States Marshals Service



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LIFE ON THE RUN FOR CONVICTED DRUG DEALER ENDS AFTER 21 YEARS

The United States Marshals Service Fugitive Investigations Unit apprehended fugitive Juan Valenzuela who was wanted by the U.S. Marshals for a failure to appear for sentencing on a 1981 distribution of heroin charge. Valenzuela, who was originally arrested by the Drug Enforcement Agency, was convicted of this charge and was released on bond pending his sentencing. Numerous attempts to locate Valenzuela over the years have been thwarting due to his cunning use of aliases and constant moves throughout the United States.

Deputy U.S. Marshals learned that Valenzuela may be utilizing the alias of Rogelio Lara. Based on this information, they were able to uncover a possible address for Lara in Chicago. Valenzuela was located and arrested without incident. Valenzuela was taken to the Metropolitan Correctional Center where he will await sentencing on the original charges in federal court. Valenzuela stated, "I knew you guys would find me. I have seen you on all the police shows and I knew it was only a matter of time."

U.S. Marshal Kim Widup stated, "It just goes to show you that the U.S. Marshals Service will find you. It may not be today or tomorrow, but we will get you no matter how hard you try and hide."